

# SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of February 19, 2018

- **Water Committee:** Staff reviewed stormwater legislation, regulatory and water board updates, and pending litigation. In order to separate Water Committee meetings from Governing Board meetings, the Water Committee recommends that the Water Committee begin meeting on the second Tuesday of the month; same time and location. Otherwise, the agenda was once again dominated by discussion of the Safe, Clean Water stormwater funding measure. Staff reviewed the work of the four SCW subcommittees and invited discussion.
  - *Governance:* After considering several governance structures and authorities, such as IRWMPs, E/WMPs, and COGs, Water Policy members recommended that the SGVCOG advocate for governance at the subregional level, similar to how Measure M funds are administered.
  - *Project Selection Criteria:* Members reiterated our current policy, that the vast majority of money go toward capital projects, especially those identified in approved stormwater plans. At the same time, they understood that flexibility must be retained to allow for updating project lists with less-costly alternatives, incorporating new technologies. After reviewing the County's proposed numeric scoring method, members thought it lumped projects into bins that are too large to be able to effectively compare one to another. Members also wanted to make sure that projects need not create "new water" to be eligible for funding, given that 95% of stormwater in the San Gabriel and Rio Hondo Rivers area is already being captured.
  - *Credits, Rebates, and Incentives:* Members discussed the relative benefits versus the administrative burden of incentives and rebates. Members favored leaving such programs up to cities to implement as they determine.
  - *Disadvantaged Communities, Equity, and Stakeholder Involvement:* After review, the Water Committee did not discuss this topic further.
- **EENR Committee:** This week the EENR Committee received a presentation on the Electrification Pathway by SCE. This presentation focused on inclusion of more renewable energy in order to meet state GHG Goals. As part of the presentation, the modernization of the grid was also discussed. To date, \$4 billion a year has been spent by SCE to upgrade the grid in order to provide up to 80 percent carbon-free energy by 2030. Also, the Committee received a presentation on SB 168 (Wieckowski). This bill would establish the minimum percentage of a material type that a beverage container is constructed. Moreover, this bill would also implement an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program to replace the current California beverage container recycling program. An EPR, basically places the responsibility on beverage container producers on end-of-life product management. The committee discussed the bill and recommended a support position.
- **Planners Committee:** The Planners TAC met on Thursday. They received two presentations. Staff from the City of La Verne presented on the City's Enhanced Infrastructure Finance District. Additionally, COG staff presented on the draft Project Review and Evaluation Process for projects to be constructed by ACE.
- **Homelessness Committee:** The Homelessness Committee was given a presentation on the

benefits of Permanent Supportive Housing. The presentation also featured a case study on best practices to build a PSH Project from beginning to end successfully. The presentation reinforced the need for on-site management and services staff in order to keep people housed long-term. Also, the committee review AB 1795 (Gipson). This bill would allow emergency medical technicians (EMTs) to transport patients transport people to a community care facility, such as a mental health urgent care center or sobering facility who otherwise wouldn't be transported to an emergency room. However, this is not mandated, and EMT's retain the option to transport a patient to an emergency room. The committee discussed the bill and recommended a support position.

- **LA County Technical Assistance Workshop:** The second County Technical Assistance Workshop, "Housing and Land Use 101", was conducted on Wednesday, February 21. Twenty two cities participated. While there is no single solution to the homelessness crisis, cities and the County need to employ a variety of strategies to effectively address it. This Session covered the best practices for cities zoning transitional and supportive housing, affordable housing, and emergency shelters. The presentation featured highlights from the 2017 legislative housing package, including new laws that affect the siting and approval of affordable housing, and explored innovative land-use tools and programs that cities are using to help address the homelessness crisis including an overview of supportive housing. "Housing and Land Use 202" is scheduled for March 12th. The link to register for this session is [HERE](#).

# SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of February 12, 2018

- **Comp Class Study Kickoff:** On Monday, SGVCOG and ACE staff participated in an orientation for the recently initiated classification and compensation study at the Irwindale office. The consultant, Reward Strategy Group, briefed staff on the timeline of the study, which is anticipated to be completed by early October, and instructed staff how to complete initial position description questionnaires. The purpose of the study is to develop an improved classification system that combines the two organizations and accurately depicts the way work is organized and performed today and will work going forward.
- **SGV Consortium on Homelessness:** The quarterly regional meeting was conducted by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). They reviewed Measure H Capacity Building strategies that will assist small local service providers and faith-based groups in applying for funding and increase their ability to serve the community. They also indicated that homeless count information is expected to be released in July 2018.
- **Los Angeles Continuum of Care Board Meeting:** LAHSA staff presented a Coordinated Entry System (CES) Dashboard which will provide a single on-line location for data about the number of people being engaged and housed. The Board also discussed a Housing Navigation policy, which will set limiting parameters around which homeless people can receive assistance navigating the complex systems to obtain housing. SGVCOG staff expressed concern that homeless persons in our communities may not receive the assistance needed. COG staff brought this concern to the LAHSA Policy and Planning Commission and will continue to represent the needs of this region when such policies are brought forth.
- **Transportation Committee:** On Thursday, the Transportation Committee met and heard two presentations. The Committee first heard a presentation from two San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) about the agency's I-10 Express Lanes Project. This 33-mile express lanes project will stretch from the County line between LA County and San Bernardino County, and while the project is located in San Bernardino County, the project will affect traffic in the eastern San Gabriel Valley, especially in Pomona and Claremont. Construction will begin on the first 10-mile stretch, starting from the County line, later this calendar year. Additionally, COG staff presented the draft Project Development, Evaluation, and Approval Processes for projects to be undertaken by the new ACE. The Transportation Committee approved a motion to send this item as presented to the Executive Committee for further review.
- **Safe, Clean Waters SAC Meeting:** At the monthly stakeholder meeting, County staff reviewed the progress of the four subgroups and solicited feedback from the full committee. (The Safe, Clean Water link (<https://dpw.lacounty.gov/lacfd/scwp/>) includes all work, minutes, presentations, and products of the SAC and subcommittees.)
  - *Project Selection Criteria. Discussion centered on how high of a priority green infrastructure and community enhancements should hold relative to increasing water supply and enhancing water quality. SGVCOG emphasized that cities*

- *should have maximum flexibility in the selection of projects under the local return program, that regional project selection must account for parochial differences, and that project selection criteria consider money that can be leveraged from other sources.*
  - *Governance. Given that several governance structures already exist (IRWMP, E/WMP), members felt that this measure should begin with one of those as the basis for governance. Others commented that existing structures lack CBO representation and that there must be some capacity building before CBOs would be able to participate. SGVCOG staff suggested that permittees get a weighted vote since they are liable for meeting clean water standards.*
  - *Credits/Rebates and Incentives. Ideas included establishing a credit trading program to incentivize businesses that have the capacity to accept stormwater from other properties, going above and beyond their LID requirements. One member cautioned that establishing a credit program at the homeowner level might create a rash of exploitation by companies promising to relieve the tax burden but delivering shoddy projects. There was a request to include exclusions for religious institutions, schools, and some nonprofits.*
  - *DACs, Equity, and Stakeholder Involvement. Members had competing ideas about how best to serve disadvantaged communities. Some felt that since 41% of LA County is classified as DAC, 41% of the money generated should go to those communities. SGVCOG countered that since CalEnviroScreen was initially an air quality tool, it may not be the best indicator of stormwater burden. Instead, they lobbied for MS4 liability and water quality as a better indicator of equity.*
- **Urban Greening Grant Workshop** -- On Thursday, COG staff attended a technical assistance workshop in Lynwood for the Urban Greening Program, Round 2, which is a grant program that is funded by the California Climate Investments (cap and trade dollars), and is organized and operated by the State of California's Natural Resources Agency. The overarching goals of the Urban Greening Program are reducing GHG emissions, providing more active transportation infrastructure for California residents, and reducing vehicle miles traveled. 75% of Urban Greening funds are mandated to be allocated toward projects in disadvantaged and/or low-income communities. All applications are due by April 11. For more information on this program, its guidelines, and its application, please visit: <http://resources.ca.gov/grants/urban-greening/>.
- **Governing Board:** The Governing Board met on Thursday. The majority of the meeting was set aside for Executive Director interviews. Therefore, the all action items were included on the consent calendar. Key items that were approved include the following:
- *2nd Quarter Financial Report and Mid-year budget Revision: The mid-year budget revision reflected several minor changes, including final revenue and expenses for the General Assembly; reduced revenues and expenses for the LA County Commercial PACE grant due to project delays; added revenue and expenses associated with the city homeless planning grants; and increased*

- *expenses to reflect the Board action to increase the monthly meeting stipend to*
- *\$75.*
- *Basin Plan: The Water Committee is working with various legislators to secure a funding stream to update the Basin Plan. The approved resolution updates the 2018 SGVCOG Stormwater Legislative Priorities to include this as a key action item.*
- *Measure M Public Participation Plan: Metro requires the development of a public participation plan for the programming of SGVCOG Measure M Subregional Program Funds. This plan identifies the process by which stakeholders can provide input on the programming effort.*

# SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of February 5, 2018

- **Metro PAC:** Mark Christoffels attended Metro's monthly Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting on Tuesday. The primary topic of discussion was the development of an "equity platform" to incorporate into Metro's Long-Range Transportation Plan. This would provide guidance to Metro in targeting certain transportation improvements into areas of the County that have historically experienced a lack of public investment.
- **City Managers' Steering Committee:** On Wednesday, the Committee acted on two major items. First, the Committee recommended the Governing Board update the Committee's election/appointment process to include At-Large seats. Second, the Committee reviewed the proposed #2 Amendment to the SGVCOG's FY 17-18 budget, as well as the 2nd Quarter Financial Report and recommended the Governing Board approve. The major changes in this amendment reflect the actual revenue/expenses of the 2017 General Assembly, delay in grant activity for the Commercial PACE program due to application issues and the addition of revenue/expenses of the city homelessness planning funds. Also, the Committee featured two presentations. The first was conducted by Doran Barnes, CEO of Foothill Transit, on the new Bus Enhancement Program. The second was a staff presentation on the proposed project review process for the capital projects and construction program.
- **2nd Annual Homeless Initiative Convention:** The County of Los Angeles held its 2nd Annual Homeless Initiative Convention on Thursday. Jan Cicco, SGVCOG Homelessness Coordinator, attended this event. Key successes of the first six months of Measure H initiatives (July-December 2017) included the following:
  - *4,038 individuals were engaged by outreach teams,*
  - *4,261 individuals were assisted with securing SSI and Veterans Disability Benefits,*
  - *7,297 people entered crisis, bridge and interim housing, and*
  - *3,350 homeless families and individuals secured housing.*Among the speaker panelists were Benita DeFrank, City of Pomona, and Bill Huang, City of Pasadena.
- **Safe, Clean Water Subcommittees:** This week saw the kickoff of four Safe, Clean Water subcommittees. These subgroups, comprised of delegates and alternates from the Stakeholder Advisory Committee, will be meeting over the next three months to hone in four of the more complicated program elements, eventually making recommendations to County staff as they develop the framework for the potential stormwater tax measure.
  - *Credits, Incentives, and Rebates: The subcommittee discussed the definition of these categories and the eligible activities and project types that could qualify under each. They then considered various funding and administration concepts.*
  - *DACs, Equity, and Stakeholder Involvement: This group began by reviewing the current definitions for a DAC community, such as those given in Prop 84 and AB*
  - *31. They discussed what constitutes a tangible benefit to these communities and*

- gave examples. *Finally, the subcommittee considered ideas for inclusive decision-making and community engagement.*
  - *Projects Selection Criteria: The subcommittee considered the tradeoffs between the three program goals: enhancing water supply, improving water quality, and providing community enhancements. County staff provided threshold criteria for each and invited comments. Members discussed how to weight or prioritize various project elements and how to account for regional conditions, for example soil perviousness, when selecting projects.*
  - *Governance: The Governance subcommittee discussed ideas for oversight of the regional return program that at the same time, accounts for subregional differences such as infiltration limitations. This led to consideration of a single governance structure, or multiple subregional bodies. The subcommittee moved on to discuss how projects should be selected: strictly based on score, for example, or other factors such as being a part of an approved EWMP plan. Finally, they considered who should be a part of the governing body.*
- **San Gabriel Valley Water Association:** The SGVWA held its quarterly meeting this week. The guest speaker was Deven Upadhyay, Assistant GM and COO for Metropolitan Water District (MWD). Upadhyay outlined Cal WaterFix's revised plan consisting of a phased build, beginning with one tunnel. This approach would build one tunnel, delivering 6,000 cubic feet of water per second (cfs) at a cost of \$10.7 billion, instead of the original two-tunnel plan that would have brought in 9,000 cfs, costing \$16.3 billion. Additionally, Upadhyay discussed MWD's partnership with LA Sanitation District to construct a water recycling project consisting of the recycling plant and the pumps and conveyance required to move the recycled water back upstream to LA County spreading grounds where it could be infiltrated into groundwater basins.
  - **Update on Homeless Planning Grants:** All participating cities have engaged in an initial consultation call to discuss the following issues: 1) challenges related to homelessness in their community and surrounding region, 2) current efforts to address these issues and available resources 3) identification of stakeholders that will participate in plan development input sessions. Additionally, at the request of the SGVCOG, LAHSA hosted a data mining workshop on February 7th. This workshop provided cities with information and template surveys that will enable cities to gather city level demographic and subpopulation data to inform their homeless plans.
  - **Nighttime Bike Intercepts:** As part of the SGV Active Transportation Plan project, 12 nighttime light distribution/education intercepts across five partner cities have been conducted in the last few months. Bike SGV volunteers and staff identified people riding at night without working lights or reflectors. During these intercepts, riders receive free giveaways and educational materials that provide basic safety tips. The most recent intercept happened this week in the City of Irwindale on Arrow Hwy and Nubia. Twenty pairs of lights were handed out to bike riders, scooter riders and a few families out for a ride.